

Community

Presbyterian Church

of

Lac du Flambeau

# Community Press

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2020

To: All the good and gracious folk of the Community Presbyterian Church, greetings, as we begin a new month and move ever closer to the beginning and end of a new year.

It may sound a bit odd to speak of beginnings and endings as we approach the month of November, but, in fact, we are moving toward the end of this calendar year, 2020, and the beginning of a new Christian year as we come to the celebrations of Advent and Christmas. But this year is like none we have ever before experienced brought about by the pandemic, coronavirus, Covid-19. Arguably, this is the most devastating phenomenon ever to touch the shores of our nation, with, as of this writing, over 9 million cases reported nationwide coupled with about 220,000 deaths. At it is only going to go higher - - at least for now.

This has had a burdensome impact on the churches of our nation (all nations really) not allowing us to worship, praise, educate in our normal fashion. It has affected our finances, although we are fortunate to have reserves (which cannot last forever) that will get us through these tough times for a decent period. It is burdensome as well because folks general routines have been disrupted. We are confined to our homes, not allowing our church fellowship to flow smoothly, unless we choose to make some waves by living the Gospel message in a suffering world. As I recall, the last "normal" service of worship was on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of April and we have been on Zoom ever since. It was difficult for us, since our sound system is normally quite adequate, but now is being tested. And, of course, as is normal for humans, we had varying responses to its usefulness. However, as we now approach our 8<sup>th</sup> month with our online service, we have made progress. Let me assure you though that preaching week after week for all these months is not the most satisfying experience for me, as it is also for you. I miss the warmth, vitality, and strong faith of this community of Christians. We are going to have to dig deeper into our pockets of faith and worship experience to bolster our present situation. It will end, eventually, if, as and when we really come to grips with COVID-19. We have wasted too much time and energy not

really using the talents we have, and have displayed so many times, to overcome this issue. But, to borrow a phrase, "We Shall Overcome!" And we shall!

One thing we should always remember, that whether things are going well or not so well, our God of Love is always in our midst. In light of this, I came across a piece written some seven or eight years ago. It is simply titled: "I AM." The inspiration for this work came from these words from the Book of Exodus 3:14, "I AM WHO I AM." And God's challenge to Moses to tell the people of Israel, "I AM has sent me to you." A second inspiration came from Matthew 16: 15 where we read: "He (Jesus) said to them: "But who do you say that I am?" (Emphasis added). So here it is:

I am the rays of the rising sun,  
Snow on the Mountains of the Moon,  
The far-flung Shadows of the late afternoon.  
I am the Wisdom of the sage.  
I am the Refuge of all who weep.  
I am the Mother of all who live.  
I am the Promises I keep.  
I am the One who sits in sorrow.  
I am the One who feels your pain.  
I am the Hope of your tomorrow.  
I am the One who "will" remain.

Yes, we shall survive our present dilemma, as we have others. And we shall do so because the Lord of all is with us - - even in our darkest times. This is what gets me through life, how about you?

May God's peace, joy, hope and love be yours now and forever. Amen and Amen!

Pax et Caritas,

Bill Anderson

## SESSION NOTES from October 2020

Next scheduled meeting will be November 13, 2020

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### The Family of Ken Biek

Wishes to thank everyone at CPC for their kind expressions of sympathy. Your thoughtfulness helps during this time of loss.

Sincerely,  
Linda Biek

### SPECIAL DATES for NOVEMBER 2020

All Saint's Day	Nov. 1
Daylight – Savings time ends	Nov. 1
Election Day	Nov. 3
Veterans Day	Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Day	Nov. 26
First Sunday of Advent	Nov. 29

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Carolyn Anderson	Nov. 6
Ginny Stiles	Nov. 9
Barbara Metz	Nov. 14
Jill and Consie	Nov. 16

### NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Richard and Helen Day	Nov. 24
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## NOVEMBER 2020 SCRIPTURE READINGS SCRIPTURE READINGS

### November 1, 2020

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Communion Sunday

All Saints Day

Rev. 7: 9-17; Ps. 34: 1-10,22; I John 3: 1-3;

Matt. 5: 1-12

### November 8, 2020

32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Josh. 24: 1-3a, 14-25; Ps. 78: 1-7; I Thess. 4: 13-18

Matt. 25: 1-13

### November 15, 2020

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Judges 4: 1-7; Ps. 123; I Thess. 5: 1-11;

Matt. 25: 14-30

### November 22, 2020

34<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Peace Sunday

Ezek. 34: 11-16, 20-24; Ps. 100; Eph. 1: 15-23;

Matt. 25: 31-46

### November 29, 2020

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent

Isa. 64: 1-9; Ps. 80: 1-7, 17-19; I Cor. 1: 3-9;

Mark 13: 24-37

These readings are suggested by the Presbyterian Planning Calendar and may be changed depending on the topic of the sermon.

*As people of God and servants of our Lord Jesus Christ, we believe our Mission to be the building of a strong fellowship, ministering to the Spiritual and physical needs of the church, the community, and the world fulfilling our Lord's command to "Love our neighbors".*

